

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (currently amended): A portable computer system comprising:

- a processor coupled to a bus;
- a light sensor coupled to said bus and for providing an ambient light information signal to said processor;
- a lighted display device coupled to said bus and for providing a visual display;
- a display controller coupled to said bus and for controlling said visual display;
- a data storage device coupled to said bus and comprising preconfigured dynamically adjustable brightness range setting data for implementing a plurality of different stored ranges, wherein each stored range of said plurality of stored ranges comprises a brightness range maximum value and a brightness range minimum value; and

wherein said processor automatically selects a stored range of said plurality of stored ranges based on said ambient light information signal from said light sensor.

Claim 2. (original): The portable computer system of Claim 1 further comprising an adjustment display for enabling the user to adjust a brightness setting within said selected range for said display device.

Claim 3. (original): The portable computer system of Claim 1 wherein said lighted display device is transmissive.

Claim 4. (original): The portable computer system of Claim 1 wherein said lighted display device is emissive.

Claim 5. (original): The portable computer system of Claim 1 wherein said lighted display device is reflective.

Claim 6. (original): The portable computer system of Claim 1 wherein said lighted display device is transfective.

Claim 7. (original): The portable computer system of Claim 2 wherein said adjustment display comprises a brightness bar with user adjustable slider.

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Claim 8. (previously presented): The portable computer system of Claim 7 wherein said adjustment display comprises a plurality of selectable brightness levels.

Claim 9. (currently amended): The portable computer system of Claim 8 wherein the position of said user adjustable slider remains unchanged in response to an automatic change in brightness range between a first selected range and a second selected range and wherein further, said position of said slider in said first selected range corresponds to a different brightness value compared to a brightness value corresponding to said same position of said slider in said second selected range, based on a position of said user adjustable slider, the relative brightness setting remains unchanged with respect to a range upon an automatic change from one selected range to another selected range.

Claim 10.(original): The portable computer system of Claim 9 wherein said display controller adjusts brightness of said display device according to said range and brightness setting.

Claim 11. (previously presented): The portable computer system of Claim 10 further comprising a time period for implementing any brightness changes to said display device.

Claim 12. (currently amended): The portable computer system of Claim 11 wherein a setting for said time period is fixed.

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Claim 13. (currently amended): A portable electronic device comprising:

- a processor coupled to a bus;
- a light sensor coupled to said bus and for providing ambient light information signal to said processor;
- a lighted display device coupled to said bus and for providing a visual display;
- a display controller and for controlling said visual display;
- a data storage device coupled to said bus and comprising a plurality of preconfigured dynamically adjustable brightness ranges, wherein each stored range of said plurality of stored ranges comprises a brightness range maximum value and a brightness range minimum value; and

wherein said processor selects a brightness range of said stored brightness ranges based on preset range configuration data and said ambient light information signal from said light sensor.

Claim 14. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 13 further comprising an adjustment display for enabling the user to adjust brightness of said display device within said range setting.

Claim 15. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 13 wherein said lighted display device is transmissive.

Claim 16. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 13 wherein said lighted display device is emissive.

Claim 17. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 13 wherein said lighted display device is reflective.

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Claim 18. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 13 wherein said lighted display device is transflective.

Claim 19. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 14 wherein said adjustment display is a graphical user interface comprising a brightness bar and a user adjustable slider.

Claim 20. (previously presented): The portable electronic device of Claim 19 wherein said adjustment display is a graphical user interface comprising a plurality of user selectable brightness levels.

Claim 21. (currently amended): The portable electronic device of Claim 20 wherein, the position of said user adjustable slider remains unchanged in

response to an automatic change in brightness range between a first selected range and a second selected range and wherein further, said position of said slider in said first selected range corresponds to a different brightness value compared to a brightness value corresponding to said same position of said slider in said second selected range~~based on a position of said user-adjustable slider, the relative brightness setting remains unchanged with respect to a range upon an automatic change from a first brightness range to another brightness range.~~

Claim 22. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 21 wherein said display controller implements adjustment to brightness of said display device according to said selected brightness range and brightness setting.

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Claim 23. (previously presented): The portable electronic device of Claim 22 further comprising a time-delay for implementing any adjustment to brightness of said display device.

Claim 24. (original): The portable electronic device of Claim 23 wherein said time delay is fixed.

Claim 25. (currently amended): In a portable electronic device, a method of responding to a change in ambient light conditions comprising:

- a) detecting said change in ambient light conditions and generating a signal in response thereto;
- b) in response to said signal, a processor of said portable electronic device selecting a brightness range from a plurality of stored brightness ranges based on preconfigured range information; and

c) implementing said brightness range to alter the brightness of a display device of said portable electronic device, wherein each stored brightness range of said plurality of stored brightness ranges comprises a brightness range maximum value and a brightness range minimum value.

Claim 26. (original): A method as described in Claim 25 further comprising:

d) allowing a user to adjust a brightness setting within said selected brightness range; and

e) altering said brightness of said display device based on said brightness setting.

Claim 27. (currently amended): A method as described in Claim 26 wherein said d) is implemented using a ~~graphical user interface~~ user-adjustable slider.

Claim 28. (original): A method as described in Claim 25 wherein c) comprises employing a time delay between any brightness transition of said display device.

Claim 29. (original): A method as described in Claim 25 wherein a) is performed by a light sensor of said portable electronic device.

Claim 30. (currently amended): The portable computer system of Claim 11 wherein a setting for said time period's setting is user-configurable.

Claim 31. (currently amended): The portable electronic device of Claim ~~13~~23 wherein said time delay is user-configurable.

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Claim 32. (new): A method as described in Claim 27, wherein the position of said user-adjustable slider remains unchanged in response to an automatic change in brightness range between a first selected range and a second selected range and wherein further, said position of said slider in said first selected range corresponds to a different brightness value compared to a brightness value corresponding to said same position of said slider in said second selected range.
